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PORTRAIT OF A TOP OPERATOR

Man Behind U. S. Spies

CPYRGHT

WASHINGTON—(P)—In the background of almost every major foreign policy decision made these days by the Eisenhower administration there is the figure of a man who may well be called America's "master spy."

He directs a sprawling and shadowy government agency whose lines of espionage and information spread around the world and penetrate even behind the Iron Curtain in the desperate and often dangerous game of matching wits with the Communists. The estimates of the world situation which come from his office are vitally important in administration policy planning.

Few people know how and where he spends hundreds of millions of dollars—or in fact how much he does spend. Few know who his agents are or how they operate. Only a handful of top government officials have access to his reports and estimates on Communist moves and probable plans.

And yet the very survival of the free world could one day

depend on how well this man and his colleagues gauge Russia's intentions and capabilities—and calculate the reactions to diplomatic and military moves.

He is Allen Welsh Dulles, 61, chief of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) whose operations are more hush-hush in many ways than those of the Atomic Energy Commission. His official title is director of central intelligence.

Dulles is a lanky, 190-pound, pipe-smoking lawyer with gray hair a bristling mustache, and a strong resemblance to his older—by five years—brother, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. He has a quick laugh and a fun-loving twinkle in his eye that John Foster doesn't have. In his slightly rumpled business suits, he looks more like a scholarly headmaster than the expert in cloak-and-dagger affairs that he is.

But Allen Dulles is a man who early in life was intrigued with intrigue. Now he's in the middle of the greatest peacetime spying contest the world perhaps ever has known.